

Feor (1954) Department.

SERIES.

G.O. No.	639
Dated	25-7-49

[Despatch Abstract.]

AGRI- G.M.F: Fertiliser Advisory Committee-
Minutes of the meeting held on 22-6-49-
Recorded.

Agricultural Department.

From
Sri B.M. Lakshimpathy, B.E.,
M.E., M.R.A.S.E.,
Joint Director of Agriculture,
Rushkyrum No. 2 Club House Rd.,
M A D R A S. (2).

To
The Secretary to Government,
Development Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

No. M. 1. 1038. 49 dated 4-7-1949.

Sir,

Sub: AGRICULTURE- Grow More Food- Fertiliser-
Advisory Committee- minutes of the meeting
held on 22nd June 849 in the office of the
Director of Agriculture, Madras.

...

I submit herewith a copy of the minutes of the
meeting of the Fertiliser Advisory committee held at the
office of the Director of Agriculture, Chepauk, Madras on
22nd June 1949, for the information of Government.

Sd. B.M. Lakshimpathy
Joint Director of Agriculture.

True Copy /Forwarded/By order/

Sd.
Asst. Marketing Officer.

Office of the Director of Agriculture,
Madras dated 30-6-1949.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FERTILISER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY THE 22ND JUNE, 1949 AT 3 P.M. IN THE OFFICE
OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE MADRAS.

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- Present:- 1 R.M. Sundaram Esq., I.C.S.,
Director of Agriculture----- Chairman.
2. Sri B.M. Lakshmipathy, B.E., M.E.,
M.R.A.S.E., Joint Director of Agriculture.
3. Sri John K. John Secretary, Fertiliser Firms
Conference of South India (Of Messrs: Parry & Co.,
Madras.).
4. K.M. Desikar M.L.C. Vallivalam P.O. Tanjore Dt.
5. Sri D. Shanmugasundaram, B.Sc., (Ag)
Asst. Marketing Officer- Secretary.
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Subject:- 1 The minutes of the previous meeting of the
Fertiliser Advisory committee held on 2nd
February 1949 were confirmed.

Subject II. To consider the supply of chemical fertilisers
to the following new firms for manufacturers of manure
mixtures and including them as regular manure mixing
concerns.

- (a). Bharat Manures Development co., Chirala Guntur dt.
- (b) Deccan Fertiliser co., (Proprietor Hajee T. Abdul Rasak
& Sons, Coimbatore)
- (c) Andhra Bone Mills Fertiliser and Glue manufacturing,
Kodavallur (Guntur District) Crushing bones already.
- (d) Ketti Growers United Corporation Ltd., Ketti (The Nilgiris)
- (e) K.Kumaraswamy Mudaliar and sons, Merchant, Contractor
and Commission Agents, P.W. No.179. Coimbatore.
- (f) L.Sankarakumar, L.Ag., 89, West Car St., Srivilliputhur
(Ramanad District).
- (g) Yercaud coffee Curing works Limited, Kannankurichi
(Salem District).

...

The Director of Agriculture observed that the Government
were particular that no chemical manures should be given to
non-food crops and that every pound of imported fertilisers
was required for the production of food crops only. To that
extent discussions were held at the recent conference in
New Delhi as to how the revised distribution could be
enforced. An understanding that the work in the previous
years will be continued this year also was arrived at,
but it was not known whether the Government of India would
approve of it. This year a quantity of 1 lakh of tons
of ammonium sulphate has been asked for. The Government

The Government of India were very particular that some method should be devised either by statutory enactment or by other control to ensure that all chemical fertilisers were used only for food crops. The sub-committee which was appointed to go into this question was of the opinion that it was not practicable to devise any satisfactory means for completely stopping the utilisation of ammonium sulphate for non-food crops for more reasons than one. Sulphate could however be restricted to areas where only food crops grow and also on a seasonal basis when the ammonium sulphate grew and will be required for food crops only. But even these will not completely ensure the utilisation of the fertiliser to food crops alone. The Government of India were also considering other methods by which ammonium sulphate could be distributed with the cooperation of village Associations and get an undertaking from the ryots that they will not use it for non-food crops.

The Director added that this question will again be discussed during the forthcoming meeting of Provincial Representatives to be held at Bombay on the 30th June and 1st of July when a decision was expected to be taken on the subject. It might be that some of the firms now proposed for inclusion in the manure mixing firms were really deserving ones, but until the decision of the conference was made known, it would not be possible to say whether the manure mixing firms will get any allotment at all. The Director of Agriculture was of the opinion that it was too premature to think of including any new firms as the existing firms themselves might not get anything and suggested that the subject be left over till the Government of India came to a final decision.

The consideration of the subject was therefore postponed by the committee.

Subject III. To consider the following resolutions proposed by Mr. John K. John of Messrs. Parry & Co., and Secretary of the Fertiliser firms conference of the South India.

Resolution (1). In the minutes of the first meeting of the Fertiliser Advisory committee held on 14th November 1949, the following paragraphs appeared.

- " To consider the increase of the quota of Government imported fertilisers for the preparation of mixtures.
- " Mr. Coleman informed that from 1944 till last year, Government allowed 35% of the sulphate of ammonia being made to the fertiliser mixtures, but from last year, Government limited this quantity of sulphate of ammonia used in mixtures by the manure mixing firms to 13,000 tons, thereby limiting the manufacture of mixtures to 13,000 tons whereas more imports had begun to come in. He felt that at least the limit of 35% of available quantity of fertilisers should be allotted to manure mixing firms for the manufacture of mixtures. The committee finally decided that the quota of Government imported fertilisers for the preparation of mixtures should be increased so that more manures may be available for the province."

" In the minutes of the second meeting on 28-1-48, there was the following para.

" It was agreed on the suggestion of the members that 35.5% may be allotted as at present and the current policy of distribution may continue. No immediate increase is found possible until the overhaul allotment to the province is raised.

" It is however seen that the mixing firms are not being allotted 35.5% of the total imports of sulphate of ammonia and the committee strongly recommends to the Government that the manure mixing firms be allotted with immediate effect a minimum of 35.5% of the total allotment of fertilisers to Madras Province."

In moving the resolution, Mr. John said that in pre-war days, about 35.5% of the total import of ammonium sulphate was being allotted to the manure mixing firms for preparation of manure mixtures. Government first said that 35.5% will be continued to be given to them but later the quantity was changed to 35.5% or 13,119 tons whichever was less. Thereafter there was again a change to a quantity less than 13,119 tons. The Fertiliser Firms' conference had sent several letters to the Department requesting that this 35.5% of the total import be continued, that being the percentage which was used in manure mixtures in the pre-war days when they were allowed to supply the mixtures to the ryots in competition with the straight fertiliser. Mr. John added that the prices and quality of the mixtures was controlled by the Department, and that in such circumstances, Government might be pleased to allot 35.5% to the manure mixing firms, as before. He cited for example that in U.S.A. about 75% of the total quantity of ammonium sulphate was being utilised in mixtures and the mixture percentage in U.K. was 50. In this province, before the war the manure mixing firms were using 35.5% of the total imported quantity for mixtures. They could not ask for a further increase, but they requested to allow the same percentage to be continued without any cut.

The joint Director of Agriculture, pointed out that the request of the Fertiliser Firms conference was twice taken to the notice of Government and that this was not accepted by Government.

The Chairman observed that what he said in respect of subject No. II. applied to this resolution also. Most of the fertilisers allotted to the manure mixing firms were utilised in mixtures for sugarcane, tobacco, potato etc.,. He observed that if the manure mixing firms were prepared to stop supplying manure mixtures for commercial crops and distribute mixtures exclusively for paddy and other cereal crops, and if they gave an assurance that they will not sell their mixtures for non-food crop production, then he could support the resolution.

Although it was true that most of the fertiliser mixtures went for potato and tobacco, the manure mixing firms had their sales for paddy also. Mr. John stated that he would like to give a guarantee but the manure mixing firms were also placed in somewhat the same position as the Department. If the department could set apart a certain fixed quantity for distribution to paddy growers, the manure mixing firms were quite willing to serve them against the chits signed by the Agricultural Department.

After some discussion, the committee accepted the resolution in point, and recommended the issue of 35.5% of the total import of Ammonium sulphate to manure mixing firms for preparation of manure mixtures, as before, provided the manure mixing firms gave an assurance that the quantities allotted to them will be used for preparation of mixture for paddy and other food crops along, and issued the same only for the production of food crops, and requested Mr. John, as representative of the manure mixing firms in conference, to consider the suggestion put forward by the committee and send his proposals to Government as to the best way of carrying out the above suggestion. On receipt of these proposals the committee felt that further action could be taken in the matter.

Subject III. Resolution (2):

"In view of the pressing demand for increased quantities of fertilisers for food production, it is obviously desirable that all available supplies should go into consumption without delay. It is recommended that any allocation not taken up within 120 days of availability should be re-allotted to those firms who have already taken delivery of their quotas".

The Joint Director of Agriculture informed the meeting that at present the Department insisted on the firms taking delivery of their allotments as early as possible. As allotments were being taken by the mixing firms mostly during seasonal periods, it might not be proper to withdraw the allotments from those firms who did not take delivery of the materials within 120 days and then re-allot the same to those who had already taken delivery of their quotas. He suggested that the resolution might be communicated to all the manure mixing firms including those outside the conference and their views obtained before coming to any decision.

The chairman was of the view that 120 days was a sufficiently long period for any firm engaged in the trade for taking delivery of the materials allotted and suggested the adoption of the resolution. Finally the resolution was accepted by the committee.

Sd- R.M. Sundaram.
DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE.

True Copy.

NOTE FILE:

To A.S.

PP 1-6 above are submitted for perusal.

Subject II (a) to (c) on p 3 ante:- Extracts of these have been taken and the relevant files submitted separately.

As regards the firms mentioned in items (d) to (g) there is no pending file with the Government regarding their inclusion in the list of approved manure mixing firms.

Subject III Resolution (1) on pp 4-6- ante:- The question of giving a liberal supply of Ammonium sulphate to manure firms for the preparation of mixtures in order to prevent its diversion for the use of commercial crops is separately under consideration. An extract of this resolution has been taken and the connected file has been submitted separately.

Subject III Resolution (2) on p 6 ante:- No specific action seems called for on this resolution.

The minutes on pp 3-6 above are sent only for the information of Government. No action seems therefore called for. The papers may be recorded.

G.O. Ms. No. 639-d/ 25-7-49.
Agri-G.M.F. Fertiliser Advisory
Committee- minutes of the
meeting held on 22-6-49.
Recorded.

true Copy

MG.

R. Thiagarajan
8.12.
Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

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